



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

27 November 2012

Top Stories

- Approximately 140 people including passengers and crew on board Royal Caribbean's Voyager of the Seas developed gastrointestinal symptoms resembling norovirus upon returning from New Zealand to Sydney, according to a Royal Caribbean blog report November 23. – *Denver Examiner* (See item [10](#))
- Peanut products, manufactured by Sunland Inc. in Portales, New Mexico, responsible for sickening at least 41 people in the U.S. with Salmonella have fallen under the scrutiny of international food safety authorities, Food Safety News reported November 26. – *Food Safety News* (See item [11](#))
- Two individuals watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City November 22 discovered that shredded documents containing sensitive police information were among the confetti being thrown for the parade. – *Help Net Security* (See item [18](#))
- A utility worker responding to reports of a natural gas leak in Springfield, Massachusetts, punctured a pipe and an unknown spark ignited a massive explosion that injured 18 people and damaged 42 buildings November 23. – *Associated Press* (See item [27](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *November 26, Rigzone* – (Louisiana; International) **Second death confirmed from Black Elk explosion in the GOM.** An oil worker who was badly burned in an explosion incident aboard the Houston-based and private-owned Black Elk Energy oil platform in the Gulf of Mexico died from his injuries November 23, the Philippines Embassy confirmed in a statement. His death brought the fatality toll from the November 16 incident to two. Three more workers are still being treated for serious wounds from the blaze, while a sixth worker has still not been found. Black Elk was issued a subpoena by the U.S. Chemical Safety Board seeking details on the company's safety and environmental management plans and audits by the U.S. Department of Interior. Black Elk is required to respond to the subpoena by November 30. Early reports from the U.S. Coast Guard November 16 stated that production was not flowing from the well and at least 26 to 28 people have been aboard the platform. The workers were cutting into a long on the platform when sparks from a torch hit a storage tank, which then exploded. The platform is located 17 miles offshore Grand Isle, Louisiana, in 21 feet of water.
Source: http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/122319/Second_Death_Confirmed_from_Black_Elk_Explosion_in_the_GOM
2. *November 26, KIFI 8 Idaho Falls* – (Idaho) **Faulty insulator causes power outage for 30,000 in upper valley.** Nearly 30,000 customers in Idaho's upper valley were without power for several hours November 26. Rocky Mountain Power personnel indicated the outage was caused by a faulty insulator located on the 161 line feeding the Rigby area. The outage occurred to 29,561 Rocky Mountain Power customers in several towns. Fall River crews were immediately dispatched, but were unable to restore power to the substations until Rocky Mountain could repair the 161 transmission line feeding the stations.
Source: <http://www.localnews8.com/news/Faulty-insulator-causes-power-outage-for-30-000-in-Upper-Valley/-/308662/17542296/-/xyott8/-/index.html>
3. *November 24, Mokena Patch* – (Illinois) **Mokena oil tank leak under investigation.** Cleanup continued through the weekend of November 24 after 900 barrels of crude oil leaked from a storage tank at BP Oil-Enbridge Storage in unincorporated Mokena, Illinois. The leak of crude oil, destined for Superior, Wisconsin, was discovered November 20 at the storage facility. According to an Enbridge Inc. spokesperson, the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration was notified of the accident. The cause of the accident was due to a "failure on the line," said the spokesman, speaking on behalf of Calgary, Alberta-based crude oil distributor. A definite leak of 37,800 gallons of crude oil was confirmed to have escaped from an "infrequently used Enbridge tankage line" November 21. The leak was contained to a dike that surrounds the tank. The surface oil was sopped up, but crews were still working to collect the drenched soil surrounding the dike. According to an Enbridge press release, "The situation does not pose a health or safety risk to the community." The spokesman reiterated that "all of the oil was contained entirely within one of the storage tank dikes inside the facility, and all the visible oil within the tank

dike has now been recovered.”

Source: <http://mokena.patch.com/articles/mokena-oil-tank-leak-under-investigation>

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

4. *November 26, South Jersey Times* – (New Jersey) **Valve problem causes Salem 2 nuclear reactor to shut down.** Operators are working to restart the Salem 2 nuclear reactor in Lower Alloways Creek Township, New Jersey, after it was shut down November 25 because of a valve problem on the non-nuclear side of the plant. The reactor automatically shut down after a valve that controls water flowing through the steam generators did not respond to control room operators’ directions. “The plant responded as designed with no major issues,” a spokesman for the plant’s operator, PSEG Nuclear, said. The valve is on one of the feedwater pumps that supplies the water to the steam generators. An official from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said the shutdown was “uncomplicated.”

Source:

http://www.nj.com/salem/index.ssf/2012/11/valve_problem_causes_salem_2_n.html

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *November 25, UPI* – (National; International) **U.S. body armor plates being replaced.** The U.S. military said it would issue replacement body armor plates to troops in the field after the manufacturer issued a recall, UPI reported November 25. Thousands of armor plates used in body armor issued to U.S. Special Operations personnel were recalled after defects were detected in about 5 percent of them, Special Operations Command told ABCNews.com. The defects were found in the Generation III armor plates manufactured by California’s Ceradyne, Inc. Ceradyne has been replacing the plates with the Generation II model. The plates are inserted into standard bullet proof vests as an added measure of protection. Special Operations Command said

there were no casualties linked to Generation III plates.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2012/11/25/US-body-armor-plates-being-replaced/UPI-23791353861715/#axzz2DLFMsr9V

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. *November 25, KFVS 12 Cape Girardeau* – (Missouri; Michigan) **Forgery suspects found in Perryville.** A Michigan man's stolen credit card information lead to three arrests in Perryville, Missouri, where three men were arrested for credit card fraud. The Michigan man reported his card being used fraudulently in Perryville November 23. Police then used surveillance video to identify the suspects, who were later found at a local hotel. Police obtained a search warrant for the room where the suspects were found. Officers said they found a laptop computer connected to stripe card reader/writer. They also found 112 credit cards and gift cards. Police said the suspects were creating usable credit cards and gift cards by transferring other persons personal information onto the cards. Police also found 23 more cards inside a vehicle owned by one of the suspects. They also found more than \$1,000 worth of cigarettes, which were purchased using the fraudulent credit cards.

Source: <http://www.kfvs12.com/story/20177571/forgery-suspects-found-in-perryville>

7. *November 24, Orange County Register* – (California) **Police arrest suspect in 'desperate bandit' robberies.** Law-enforcement authorities believe they arrested the "desperate bandit" November 23, wanted in connection with numerous bank robberies in California's Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. Indio police arrested a man after a bank robbery in that city. A FirstBank branch was robbed after a man approached the teller with a note demanding money. Police radioed the car's description and an officer spotted a vehicle matching that description on westbound I-10 about a mile west of the bank, an Indio police spokesman said. The car was pulled over and the driver arrested. A two-liter plastic bottle filled with clear liquid and suspicious wiring was found by investigators during a search of the car. The Riverside Sheriff's Department sent out its Hazardous Device Team in response and determined that the device was not a bomb. FBI officials suspected the man might be connected to the nine robberies that occurred over the past year because of the nature of the crime and the man's physical description.

Source: <http://www.ocregister.com/news/bank-378651-police-downing.html>

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Transportation Sector

8. *November 26, WUSA 9 Washington D.C.* – (Washington, D.C.) **Reston Limousine shuttle bus, Jeep, sedan crash on Nebraska Avenue NW in D.C.; drivers and children injured.** An accident involving two cars and a Reston Limousine shuttle bus headed to the Field School in the 4100 block of Nebraska Avenue NW in Washington, D.C., injured more than 20 people, WUSA 9 Washington, D.C. reported November 26.

One boy was found outside the bus next to a broken window, and officials suspect he was ejected from the bus. District of Columbia firefighters stated on Twitter that 18 children were on the bus at the time. Fire officials reported that 5 people — 3 adults and two children — were transported by ambulance to the hospital. Sixteen people were transported via a mass ambulance bus. One of the people injured was the bus driver. The drivers of the other two vehicles were also transported to the hospital. The 4000-4200 Nebraska Avenue, NW and 4100-4200 Van Ness blocks were closed to traffic.

Source: <http://www.wusa9.com/news/article/230854/373/21-Taken-To-Hospital-After-Bus-Cars-Collide-In-NW-DC>

9. *November 26, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **DPS: Highway 59 shut down in Wharton Co. due to overturned propane truck.** Highway 59 was shut down in both directions November 26 in Wharton County, Texas, following an accident involving a propane truck, according to Texas Department of Public Safety officials. The accident occurred at County Road 423. A truck was sent to offload the propane, but officials warned that the highway would be shut down. There was a second major accident in Wharton County along Highway 71 near Danevang, just south of El Campo. Officials said 12-15 vehicles were involved, including a school bus.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8898175>

10. *November 23, Denver Examiner* – (International) **Norovirus outbreak sickens 140 on Royal Caribbean's 'Voyager of the Seas'.** Approximately 140 passengers and crew on board Royal Caribbean's Voyager of the Seas developed gastrointestinal symptoms resembling norovirus upon returning from New Zealand to Sydney, according to a Royal Caribbean blog report November 23. Those infected with the stomach bug responded well to over-the-counter medications administered on board the ship. Cruise officials notified passengers November 23 that they would begin cleaning and sanitizing guest rooms per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations. Because of these events, big lines were formed at the Overseas Passenger Terminal in Circular Quay, which stretched hundred of meters. The Voyager of the Seas can hold 3,138 passengers and over 1,100 crew members. Norovirus is spread person to person particularly in crowded, closed places.

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/article/norovirus-outbreak-sickens-140-on-royal-caribbean-s-voyager-of-the-seas>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

11. *November 26, Food Safety News* – (International) **Sunland recall goes international.** Peanut products manufactured by Sunland Inc. in Portales, New Mexico, responsible for sickening at least 41 people in the U.S. with Salmonella have fallen under the scrutiny of international food safety authorities in recent weeks, Food Safety News reported November 26. Consumers in Canada, Hong Kong, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, and Norway have received warnings about the potential danger of imported Sunland products. November 21, the UK's Food Standards Agency issued a warning to UK consumers concerning Sunland's products, noting that while Sunland products were likely not sold in UK supermarkets, they may be sold by some online retailers who import American foods. Consumers in Hong Kong were warned of Sunland peanut butter back November 8. Two Sunland-brand Valencia peanut butter products were imported to Hong Kong and may be contaminated. Canadians received a number of warnings about Sunland products as well, with many of the products recalled in the U.S. also having been shipped to Canada.
Source: [http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/11/sunland-recall-goes-international/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+foodsafetynews/mRcs+\(Food+Safety+News\)](http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/11/sunland-recall-goes-international/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+foodsafetynews/mRcs+(Food+Safety+News))
12. *November 24, Food Safety News* – (International) **Canadian meat processing plant suspended over Listeria scare.** Operations were suspended at a meat processing plant in Edmonton, Alberta November 23 after a Listeria infection was detected on an employee, Reuters reported. Capital Packers, Inc., detected the bacteria on an employee and contacted the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), which suspended operations at the plant after learning that the company could not properly track the whereabouts of any of its products. Capital Packers initially told the CFIA that potentially affected products were under its control, but the CFIA determined that products may have been shipped to several provinces. The company sells bacon, sausages, fresh meats, and other products to western Canada and the Northwest Territories. The company has voluntarily recalled ham sausages under the brand names Capital and Compliments.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/11/canadian-meat-processing-plant-suspended-over-listeria-scare/>
13. *November 23, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Newman's Own, Inc. issues voluntary recall of Newman's Own Lite Honey Mustard Dressing due to undeclared milk.** Newman's Own, Inc. announced November 23, the voluntary recall of Newman's Own Lite Honey Mustard Dressing because it contains undeclared milk. No other Newman's Own products or flavors are impacted. The products are sold in retail stores in the eastern to midwestern U.S. The affected packages are 16-ounce bottles of Newman's Own Lite Honey Mustard Dressing that have a sell-by date of October 16, 2013. Only the products with time codes from 12:47 to 13:30 are affected. The recall was initiated after it was discovered that Newman's Own Lite Honey Mustard Dressing was labeled with an incorrect back label that did not list the allergen milk.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm329277.htm>

14. *November 21, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (Washington; Oregon) **Legendary Baking issues allergy alert on undeclared egg in pies labeled as.** Legendary Baking of Denver recalled November 21, 726 Private Selection 9-Inch pies labeled as “Apple Lattice” because the pies may contain undeclared eggs. Private Selection 9-Inch pies labeled as “Apple Lattice” were distributed to Quality Food Centers (QFC) in Washington State and Oregon only, with sell by dates of November 4 through November 26, 2012. The 9-Inch pies are sealed in a brown cardboard box with a see-through plastic label and sold as a fresh item at the consumer level. The recalling firm initiated the recall after it was discovered that product containing egg was distributed in packaging that may not comply with applicable regulations regarding disclosure of egg as an ingredient.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm329274.htm>

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Water Sector

15. *November 23, WISH 8 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **Raw sewage overflow warning issued.** A raw sewage overflow warning was issued for parts of Indianapolis, Indiana, November 23. When a quarter of an inch of rain moves in, the sewer system can overflow and cause raw sewage and rainwater to pour into nearby streams. Due to recent rainfall, raw sewage overflow occurred. At affected discharge points, Citizens Energy posted signs to identify areas where water could present a health hazard. Citizens Energy asked residents to avoid all contact with streams for the next 4 days downstream of the Combined Sewer areas.

Source: http://www.wishtv.com/dpp/news/local/marion_county/raw-sewage-overflow-warning-issued

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

Nothing to report

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Government Facilities Sector

16. *November 25, Denver Examiner* – (Texas) **Anonymous holds school district Web site hostage over student tracking.** Hacktivists associated with the international collective known as Anonymous claimed responsibility for taking down San Antonio, Texas’s Northside Independent School District’s Web site November 24 in protest of the district’s controversial student tracking program. The program requires students to wear name badges that enable school officials to track the location of students. The same hacktivists released another statement November 25 via Pastebin giving the school district “1-3 days” to meet with parents and explain the student tracking program in detail. If the district fails to comply with the request, hacktivists threatened to “simply

shut down” the school district Web site once again.

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/article/anonymous-holds-school-district-website-hostage-over-student-tracking>

17. *November 24, Associated Press* – (Washington, DC) **State Department fire leaves four people under evaluation.** Authorities said three maintenance workers were seriously injured after a fire broke out at the State Department headquarters in Washington, D.C., November 24. A fire and EMS spokesman said the fire broke out in the ductwork on the 7th floor. Workers were able to put out the fire before firefighters arrived, but three people suffered burns. One person suffered life-threatening injuries and two others had serious but non-life-threatening injuries. All three were taken to Washington Hospital Center. A State Department spokeswoman said the fire broke out during routine maintenance to a mechanical area of the building. She said the building was briefly evacuated and then reopened.
- Source: <http://www.wjla.com/articles/2012/11/state-department-fire-leaves-four-under-evaluation-82416.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

18. *November 26, Help Net Security* – (New York) **Shredded police documents showered down on Macy’s parade spectators.** Two individuals watching the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City November 22 discovered that shredded documents containing sensitive police information were among the confetti being thrown for the parade. After picking it up and examining it, they realized it contained numbers and the acronym “SSN.” They thought the number was likely a social security number, and decided to gather more of the confetti strips laying around. They realized that some contained entire phone numbers, addresses, more social security numbers, license plate numbers, and other confidential information. Some contained information regarding police incident reports and police controlled events. The logo and the information on the shredded documents made it possible to tie them to the Nassau County Police Department, which polices parts of Long Island. It was unknown how the strips ended up at the parade, but after being notified of the matter, the Nassau County Police Department stated that they will be conducting an investigation into this matter as well as reviewing their procedures for the disposing of sensitive documents. Macy’s said that they used only commercially manufactured multicolor confetti for the parade.
- Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=14012>
19. *November 25, WCAX 3 Burlington* – (Vermont) **Norwich police cruisers destroyed by fire.** The Norwich, Vermont Police Department lost all of their cruisers in a fire. The fire was reported in the Norwich Police Department parking lot November 22. Fire crews found all three cars ablaze when they arrived. They got the fire out quickly but the cruisers were completely destroyed. Norwich police said they found evidence of an

accelerant, indicating the fire was intentionally set. But Vermont State Police fire investigators said the blaze was not suspicious. The loss to the department was valued at \$100,000. It could take as long as 2 months to replace the fleet. The department was borrowing vehicles from other departments in the mean time.

Source: http://www.wcax.com/story/20164658/police-fire-that-destroyed-norwich-cruisers-not-suspicious?hpt=us_bn7

20. *November 24, Associated Press* – (Alabama) **Sheriff: Man opened fire on 2 Alabama deputies.** A shootout left one Alabama deputy sheriff dead and another in critical condition November 24 when they checked on a man at his mobile home and he opened fire on them, authorities said. The Baldwin County sheriff told the Mobile Press-Register that gunfire erupted November 23 after a man pulled a handgun on a deputy and his colleagues outside the man's home. The deputy was fatally wounded after responding with two other deputies to a family disturbance call at the residence. Deputies returned fire, killing the man. The deputy was transported to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead. The second deputy remained in critical condition at the same hospital November 24.

Source: <http://www.katv.com/story/20177094/sheriff-man-opened-fire-on-2-alabama-deputies>

21. *November 23, Knoxville News-Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Police badges, gear stolen from from Roane supply store.** Police are searching for the thief who broke into a Roane County, Tennessee police-supply store. The Kingston Police Department said A-1 Tactical Supply store in Kingston was burglarized sometime between November 22 and November 23. The burglars stole at least \$1,321 in merchandise. Four gold metal Tennessee Highway Patrol badges with "chaplain" etched on them were taken along with 6 sets of silver Smith & Wesson handcuffs, 1 duty jacket in neon yellow, 6 reversible black pistol belts, 3 Pelican flashlights, 1 emergency hammer, 2 pairs of duty boots, and 12 keychain-style units of chemical spray.

Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2012/nov/23/police-badges-gear-stolen-from-from-roane-supply/>

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Information Technology Sector

22. *November 26, Threatpost* – (International) **Researcher finds nearly two dozen SCADA bugs in a few hours' time.** A researcher at Exodus Intelligence says that after spending a few hours looking for bugs in SCADA applications, he came up with more than 20, several of which are remote code-execution vulnerabilities. The vice president of research at Exodus said that finding the flaws was not even difficult. In fact, he said that locating the software was more difficult than finding the bugs themselves. He said he decided to go after the SCADA apps, which he had never researched before, after seeing a video posted by ReVuln the week of November 19. In the video, ReVuln researchers say they have server-side remote code-execution flaws in software from

GE, Schneider Electric, Siemens, Kaskad, ABB/Rockwell, and Eaton. The Exodus researcher also found flaws in Schneider Electric, Rockwell, and Eaton apps, as well as in software from Indusoft and RealFlex. ReVuln does not disclose vulnerabilities to vendors, but instead keeps the information to itself and sells it to customers. The Exodus researcher, meanwhile, said he plans to disclose all of the bugs he found to the Industrial Control Systems-Cyber Emergency Response Team (ICS-CERT). Of the 23 bugs he discovered, 7 of them were remotely exploitable code execution flaws. Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/researcher-finds-nearly-two-dozen-scada-bugs-few-hours-time-112612

23. *November 25, The H* – (International) **eBay closes critical security holes.** The online auction house eBay has fixed two vulnerabilities in its U.S. Web site. One of the vulnerabilities was a critical SQL injection hole in the site's selling area that gave potential attackers unauthorized read and write access to one of the company's databases. The hole was discovered by a security researcher, who confidentially reported the security issue to eBay. The researcher said that the company responded quite quickly and closed the hole after 20 days. The other hole was a cross-site scripting (XSS) vulnerability that enabled attackers to inject JavaScript code into the eBay server for execution via a specific URL. The vulnerability could have been exploited to steal other eBay users' access credentials. The company told The Register November 22 that the hole had been fixed.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/eBay-closes-critical-security-holes-1756422.html>

24. *November 23, Threatpost* – (International) **Symantec warns of new malware targeting SQL databases.** Symantec is warning of a new bit of malware that appears to be modifying corporate databases, particularly in the Middle East, though its showing up elsewhere in the world too. W32.Narilam, first discovered November 15, follows a similar pattern of other worms by copying itself onto infected machines, adding registry keys and propagating through removable drives and network shares. "What is unusual about this threat is the fact that it has the functionality to update a Microsoft SQL database if it is accessible by OLEDB. The worm specifically targets SQL databases with three distinct names: alim, maliran, and shahd," wrote a Symantec security researcher. Once Narilam finds the targeted databases, it looks for financial terms such as "BankCheck," "A_sellers" and "buusername" and Persian terms like "Pasandaz" ("Savings") and "Vamghesh" ("Instant Loans"). The malware also deletes tables with the following names: A_Sellers, person and Kalamast. "The malware does not have any functionality to steal information from the infected system and appears to be programmed specifically to damage the data held within the targeted database," the researcher wrote. The overall infection rate is low at the moment, but those whose networks are not properly protected could see business disrupted, he said.

Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/symantec-warns-new-malware-targeting-sql-databases-112312

25. *November 23, Softpedia* – (International) **Numerous .eu domains registered to host BlackHole exploit kit.** Security researchers from Sophos reveal that a number of malicious .eu domains have been registered by cybercriminals and set up to host the

infamous BlackHole exploit kit. In order to avoid security filtering, cybercrooks have registered several domains, which they use to infect the computers of unsuspecting internauts. After closely analyzing the domains, experts have noticed that they all resolve to the IP address of a server located in the Czech Republic. The server hosts over 100 domains utilized as exploit sites and gateways for adult Web sites. The cybercriminals seem to have a clever method of keeping their operations online. This month they registered domains such as nrpxq.eu, vjtjpy.eu, xzjvhs.eu, or xipuww.eu, while a few months ago they registered domains hosted on the .in Top Level Domain (TLD). Each of the domains is active only for a short period of time and all their names appear to follow this pattern of 6 random characters. One connection between the domains appears to be Finland. The .in domains were all registered by someone apparently from Finland and the .eu registrant's language was set to Finnish.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Numerous-eu-Domains-Registered-to-Host-BlackHole-Exploit-Kit-309360.shtml>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

Nothing to report

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Commercial Facilities Sector

26. *November 26, WMUR 9 Manchester* – (New Hampshire) **30 people homeless after Manchester fire.** Thirty people were homeless after a three-alarm fire swept through an apartment building in Manchester, New Hampshire, November 25. The Manchester Fire Chief said a Manchester police officer spotted the flames at the three-and-a-half story building while on routine patrol. That officer called for help and then ran inside to start getting everyone out. Firefighters arrived a few minutes later and rescued six people. By the time firefighters arrived, the fire was already spreading through the top floors and roof of the building. No one was hurt in the fire, and the American Red Cross was providing the victims with a place to stay warm and was working to identify all the needs. Investigators said it appeared the fire started on the roof of a first floor balcony and was caused by an electrical issue. Damages from the fire were estimated at \$250,000.

Source: <http://www.wmur.com/news/nh-news/30-people-homeless-after-Manchester-fire/-/9857858/17541414/-/7mfb4/-/index.html>

27. *November 25, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Utility worker pierced pipe before Springfield, Mass., gas explosion that injured 18 people and damaged 42 buildings.** A utility worker responding to reports of a natural gas leak in Springfield, Massachusetts, punctured a pipe and an unknown spark ignited a massive explosion that injured 18 people and damaged 42 buildings, the State fire marshal announced November 25. The November 23 natural gas blast in the city's entertainment district was caused by "human error," the fire marshal said at a news conference. The worker was trying to locate the source of the leak with a metal probe that tests natural gas levels when the probe damaged the underground pipe, he said. A flood of gas then built up in a building that housed a strip club, and a spark touched off the blast, officials said. Preliminary reports showed the blast damaged 42 buildings housing 115 residential units. Three buildings were immediately condemned, and 24 others require additional inspections by structural engineers to determine whether they are safe. The building that housed the Scores Gentleman's Club was destroyed. After the pipe was ruptured, authorities evacuated several buildings. Most of the people injured were part of a group of gas workers, firefighters, and police officers who ducked for cover behind a utility truck just before the blast. The truck was destroyed.
Source: <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/utility-worker-pierced-pipe-mass-gas-explosion-article-1.1207741>
28. *November 25, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **1 hurt, 40 displaced in Fort Wayne apartment fire.** One person was hospitalized and about 40 people were displaced following an apartment fire in Fort Wayne, Indiana. A Fort Wayne Fire Department spokeswoman said the injured person was in good condition with a smoke-related complaint following the fire November 25 at the Baldwin Creek Apartments. The 24-unit apartment building where the fire occurred sustained heavy damage after the fire. The Red Cross was assisting the 40 people displaced by the fire.
Source: <http://www.wishtv.com/dpp/news/indiana/1-hurt-40-displaced-in-fort-wayne-apartment-fire>
29. *November 25, KLTV 7 Tyler* – (Texas) **S. Springs apartment complex heavily damaged by fire.** A Sulphur Springs, Texas apartment complex was left heavily damaged and numerous persons were left without a home after a November 25 fire. Officials said that 17 apartments were heavily damaged and numerous surrounding apartments received smoke and water damage. The local chapter of the American Red Cross set up a shelter at the Sulphur Springs Church of the Nazarene for people who were displaced by the fire. They were expecting around 35 to 40 people. The Red Cross will start assessing those peoples' needs November 26. Two firefighters were injured during the fire. One suffered a knee injury and was treated on the scene, the second was hit in the face by a nozzle and was transported to a local hospital. Several residents in the area were also treated on the scene for smoke inhalation.
Source: <http://www.kltv.com/story/20179536/crews-on-the-scene-of-apartment-fire-in-sulphur-springs>
30. *November 25, WNCN 32 Montgomery* – (Alabama) **Fire destroys Ashton apartment building in Montgomery, displaces 30 residents.** A November 25 fire in Montgomery, Alabama, destroyed an apartment building, injuring 3 people and leaving

30 others without a home. Montgomery Fire investigators said it took over an hour for more than 15 fire units to extinguish the flames. The flames turned the apartments into a complete loss. The fire spread across 16 units. Investigators said the blaze ignited in a second floor kitchen. A Montgomery Fire Department spokesperson said two residents and one firefighter suffered minor injuries. The 30 people who lost their belongings to the fire are being temporarily housed in hotels by the Red Cross.

Source: <http://www.wncftv.com/localnews/Ashton-Apartment-Building-Destroyed-In-Fire-In-Montgomery-180783571.html>

31. *November 25, WCVB 5 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **Two firefighters injured in 6-alarm Leominster fire.** Two firefighters were injured battling a six-alarm fire in downtown Leominster, Massachusetts, when the rear of the building collapsed November 24. The fire chief said the firefighters who were injured were in a bucket on a ladder truck when a wall collapsed on them. The firefighters, from the nearby Westminster department, were treated at a local hospital in Leominster for non-life threatening injuries and released. The fast-moving fire destroyed the former Columbia Hotel. More than 30 people lived in apartments in the building. The chief of police said on the department's Facebook page, "the building and most of its contents were a total loss." Eight businesses were also lost in the fire. The American Red Cross assisted the 39 people who were displaced.

Source: <http://www.wcvb.com/news/local/central-massachusetts/Two-firefighters-injured-in-6-alarm-Leominster-fire/-/11983998/17540454/-/format/rss2.0/item/0/-/10t18gu/-/index.html>

32. *November 24, KSNV 3 Las Vegas* – (Nevada) **One dead, two injured in complex with 3 fires in 6 months.** One man died, a woman suffered smoke inhalation injuries, and a firefighter was injured November 24 in an apartment fire, the third fire in six months at a west side apartment complex. The fire broke out in a second-story unit at the Alpine Village Apartments in Las Vegas. The second-story apartment was gutted and three other units received moderate fire and water damage. Four units on the first floor sustained smoke and water damage. About 75 firefighters fought the blaze and had it put out 20 minutes after their arrival. A Las Vegas Fire & Rescue Department firefighter was taken to the hospital with unspecified injuries that were not life-threatening. The American Red Cross is assisting residents from 13 apartments. There were 26 displaced residents, officials said. The damage was estimated at \$200,000.

Source: http://www.mynews3.com/content/news/story/One-dead-two-injured-in-complex-with-3-fires-in-6/8DxIM-gr4U-OjRnI_4Xa9Q.csp

33. *November 23, New York Times* – (New York) **27 injured in fire in lower Manhattan office tower.** At least 27 people were treated for smoke inhalation outside a downtown office tower after a fire broke out November 23, the Fire Department said. The building, which was still without power and operating on generators, is home to city agencies and large private companies, including the Department of Transportation and Standard & Poor's. The building remains reliant on power from generators, but it was electrical work, not a mishap connected to a temporary power generator, that sparked the fire, the department said. "The fire at 55 Water Street was caused by a short in a feeder cable, which was re-energized this morning as part of repair work to electrical

cables damaged during the storm,” said a fire department spokesman. More than 80 firefighters responded to the fire, the department said. At least 1 firefighter was among the 27 treated at the scene; 4 of those were taken to a local hospital for further evaluation.

Source: <http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/11/23/27-injured-in-fire-in-lower-manhattan-officer-tower/>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

34. *November 26, Dredging Today* – (California) **Grants awarded for levee evaluations and repairs.** The Ventura County Watershed Protection District’s Board of Supervisors accepted grants from the California Department of Water Resources for a mix of local levee evaluations and critical levee repairs throughout Ventura County, *Dredging Today* reported November 26. The Levee Grant Program was created by the Department of Water Resources to assist local public agencies responsible for flood protection. Levee Evaluation Funding provides the funds necessary to conduct surveys, hydrology and hydraulic studies, and geotechnical evaluations of levees at risk of failing. Levee Repair Funding assists flood management agencies with critical repairs of local flood control facilities including but not limited to, erosion-damaged levees, levees with unstable slopes, and other unstable facilities. The 10 grants awarded to the District account for almost 20 percent of the total available statewide and was the third highest total among recipient counties.

Source: <http://www.dredgingtoday.com/2012/11/26/grants-awarded-for-levee-evaluations-and-repairs-usa/>

35. *November 26, Lafourche Parish Comet* – (Louisiana) **Grand Isle still waiting for levee repairs.** Three months after Hurricane Isaac, Grand Isle, Louisiana, is still waiting for repairs to the island’s levee system, which suffered severe erosion from the storm’s surge and waves, the *Lafourche Daily Comet* reported November 26. However the Grand Isle mayor said he was told by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that the repairs would not begin until June. Isaac pounded ashore in Louisiana in late August, making a direct hit on Grand Isle and neighboring Fourchon Beach. The storm pounded the island with surge and waves for nearly a full day, eroding away Grand Isle’s already damaged “burrito levee” system. The burrito levee features a geotextile core filled with sand to help strengthen the levee against erosion. The mayor said the levee was already damaged before Isaac. The fabric core of the levee burst, allowing most of the levee to be washed away by the surge. About a mile of the levee was taken out on the island’s western side, near Caminada Pass, he said. A corps spokeswoman said the corps performed a damage assessment on the levee in September. It was developing a

project report to address those levee damages. That report was scheduled to be completed in January. She said the repairs will likely focus on replacing the damaged section of geotextile tube and rebuilding the sand dune crown that covers it. The corps may also place stone to help prevent future erosion along the western end of the levee alignment. The project will likely cost between \$8 million and \$10 million. The Corps hopes to bid out construction on the project in April.

Source: <http://www.dailycomet.com/article/20121126/ARTICLES/121129765>

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